

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the six (6) drawing sheets with Figs. 1-8 with the attached six (6) Replacement Sheets.

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 7 are the independent claims. Claims 7-15 and 20 are withdrawn. By this Amendment, claims 1-7, 13-16, 18, and 19 are amended only to correct minor informalities. Thus, no new matter is added that would require further consideration and/or search.

Drawings

Although not objected to, Replacement Drawing Sheets are submitted to remove foreign language verbiage from the Drawing Sheets.

Restriction

In response to Applicant's traversal of the Restriction Requirement, it is alleged that the traversal arguments are "not found persuasive because restriction mirrors the verbiage in the restriction made in the international stage application."

Applicant first submits that restricting the claims simply because the IPERP indicated a lack of unity of invention is not a proper grounds for restriction. Moreover, contrary to the allegation in the current Office Action, the restriction implemented in the present case does not mirror the verbiage of the IPERP. For example, unlike the current claim restriction, the IPERP indicated unity of invention between claims 1-12 (i.e., the method and the device). Thus, the restriction is not in keeping with the rules of Unity of Invention and should be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-6 and 16-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject

matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As the claims are amended to address the rejections, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

As a prior art search has been conducted and none of the cited references are indicated as providing a basis for either anticipating or rendering the pending claims, it is understood that all pending claims are in condition for allowance upon withdrawal of the rejections for lacking antecedent basis or otherwise under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks and amendments, the Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending objections and rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

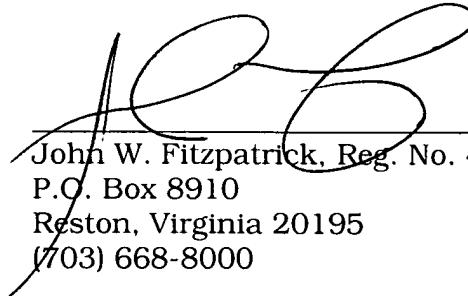
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY, & PIERCE, P.L.C.

By


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